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10 January 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Special Minutes of the Special Group Meeting, 9 January 1964

Amended NRO Forecast for January 1964.

The revised forecast of NRO air and satellite activities was approved as set forth in the paper dated 6 January 1964 (BYE 22351/64). This revised schedule provided for a basic working rate of four missions over China in any given month, one mission over North Korea in January (never more than four a year), and two missions over North Vietnam and Laos. Mr. McCone indicated that he would discuss this revised schedule with higher authority and would show him two typical flight tracks of past missions. There are now two U-2 aircraft [redacted] It was determined that no mission would approach the Soviet border closer than 50 nautical miles and no flight lines or tracks would be flown closer than 21 nautical miles to any known SAM site.

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Mr. McCone also emphasized as a matter of some urgency the importance to MAC/V and USAM of the preparation of a mosaic of South Vietnam. Such coverage he said would reveal troop deployments and the state of preparation of strategic hamlets. Mr. Bundy raised the question as to the necessity of implementing this program as a covert operation. Mr. McCone indicated that this matter would be referred back to the JCS for judgment. The consensus was that such a mosaic could be given to the Vietnamese Government as a friendly service. Mr. Johnson said he desired to obtain the concurrence and political judgment of Ambassador Lodge on this proposal.

NRO review(s)
completed.

OSD review
completed.

Paul Eckel

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